



**GRANT RECIPIENT**  
IDNR DIVISION OF  
NATURE PRESERVES

**YEAR**  
2008

**COUNTY**  
LAKE

**CATEGORY**  
LOW COST CONSTRUCTION

**GRANT AWARD**  
\$18,750

**LOCAL SHARE**  
\$18,750



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Lake Michigan Coastal Program  
1600 N 25 E  
Chesterton, IN 46304  
(219) 983-9912  
[www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich](http://www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich)

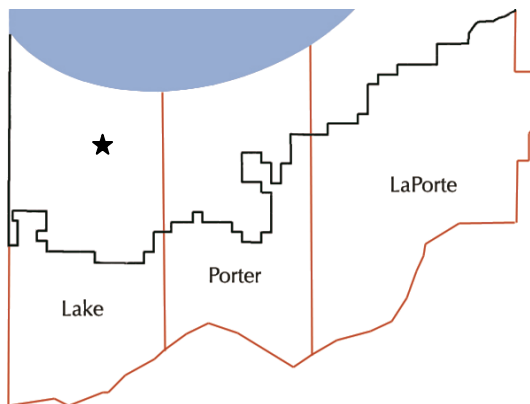


## Calumet Prairie Invasive Shrub Controls

While much of Indiana was blanketed with prairies before settlers arrived, many of them have been converted for agriculture. As a result, prairies are now uncommon in Indiana with only a few scattered remnants, mostly in Northern Indiana. Prairie systems contain native plant and animal diversity and provide an array of valuable services for people such as water filtration and the harboring of essential pollinators, such as bees and butterflies.

The 140 acre Calumet Prairie, consisting of both wet prairie and marsh plant communities, offers a glimpse at a rare ecosystem. But like most natural areas in Indiana, urban development and animal migration have created opportunities for numerous invasive plants to establish and thus crowd out existing native vegetation. For instance, invasive woody plants, such as bush honeysuckles, have established at Calumet Prairie. Several of these species are aggressive and are capable of drastically altering the native plant community.

The goal of this project was to significantly reduce the presence of invasive shrub species within a 15-acre treatment area through mowing and/or hand cutting the woody shrub species, applying herbicide to the cut stump and also herbiciding any woody resprouts. The result has been a restoration that not only improved the overall biodiversity and habitat potential for the site, but also reduced the spread of invasive shrubs into higher quality portions of the property.



**RESULT:** Significantly reduced invasive woody plants on 15 acres of native prairie.